



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY CHILD CARE ADMINISTRATION

Child Care Development Fund Quality Set-Aside and Earmarked Expenditures Fourteenth Year Activities (7/1/06 - 6/30/07)

Purpose and Authorization for the Child Care Development Fund

The Federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) helps low-income families, families receiving public assistance and those families transitioning from public assistance in obtaining child care. The program, created in 1990, is authorized under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-193).

In Arizona, the Department of Economic Security (DES) is the lead agency designated to administer CCDF. As the lead agency, DES responsibilities include:

- Contracting with child care providers to care for children birth to twelve years old whose parents/guardians qualify for subsidy.
- Ensuring that child care providers that serve CCDF eligible children meet minimum health and safety standards.
- Using specifically designated CCDF funds to improve the quality, availability and affordability of child care.

In order to meet federal requirements, the state legislature has appropriated funding to allow DES to support activities that are designed to improve the quality, availability and affordability of child care. As a result, 44 contracts with agencies and community-based organizations have been awarded.

The following pages highlight activities that utilize CCDF quality set aside and earmark funding for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2007. The estimated expenditures for each activity are also included.

For more information, write to: Arizona Department of Economic Security, Child Care Administration, Site Code 801A, P.O. Box 6123, Phoenix, AZ 85005; call (602) 542-4248 or 1 (877) 822-2322. – or email ccaweb@azdes.gov.

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Results of CCDF Quality Set Aside Activities For State Fiscal Year 2006

To assist communities in addressing the need of an adequate supply of quality child care, through community based contracts, the Department initiated and has maintained the following projects:

Entry Level Training: The Child Care Professional Training project provided a 60 hour employment preparation training to individuals interested in the field of child care. In SFY 2006, child care programs benefited from 462 individuals participating in this basic training course, up 27% from SFY 2005.

Recruiting Providers: Home recruitment services recruit and provide orientation and training to individuals interested in becoming DES certified family child care providers. As a result, 342 new certified child care homes became available in SFY 2006. Family child care is often the only option in certain areas of the state and is also the primary option when care is needed for atypical schedules (e.g. weekends and night time).

Assisting Jobs Families in Finding Care: Federal TANF regulations state that the parent may not be sanctioned if unable to work because of the inability to obtain child care. DES has policies and procedures in place to assist families who are having difficulty in finding care. In SFY 2006, of the 15,310 referrals received for child care services for Jobs Program participants, there were only 8 instances when child care was determined to be unavailable (a 99.95% success rate). In SFY 2005, there were 15,943 referrals and 11 instances when child care was unavailable (a 99.93% success rate).

The following activities, primarily delivered through community-based organizations, are designed to improve the quality of child care.

Provider Quality Incentive Payments: The Enhanced Rate for Accredited Program allows DES eligible low income families to enroll their children in programs providing higher quality of care by paying accredited providers 10% over their DES contracted rate. As of June 30, 2006, 4.5% (138) of licensed center and certified family child care providers who are contracted with DES are accredited and eligible for the enhanced rates. This represents an increase of 21% as compared with the previous fiscal year. 106 licensed centers and 32 certified family child care providers make up the total. Approximately 2,601 DES eligible children per month benefit from receiving care in accredited programs (up 13% from last fiscal year).

Child Care Resource and Referral System: As required by A.R.S. §41-1967, community based contractors provide services to families who need assistance locating child care, provides training and technical assistance to child care providers and matches parents seeking child care to all forms of lawful child care. In SFY 2006, there were 20,365 calls for assistance in searching for child care providers, an increase of 10% over SFY 2005. In addition, an estimated 33,000 users received Internet referrals via the CCR&R web site at www.azchildcare.org in SFY 2006. Because of changes in Internet referral tracking software, an accurate comparison to SFY 2005 is not possible.

Results of CCDF Quality Set Aside Activities For State Fiscal Year 2006 (continued)

Child Care Provider Registry for Unregulated Providers: State statute, §41-1967.01, requires the Department's contracted Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) system to list unregulated child care providers only if they meet certain minimal standards, such as Child Protective Service and criminal history background checks. This statutory change was enacted in April 2002. As of June 30, 2006, 607 providers met the standards and were listed on the CCR&R Registry.

Program Improvement Project: The Arizona Self-Study Project (ASSP) provides technical assistance and resources to assist child care providers to improve the child care program they offer to children and families and to pursue national accreditation. 150 child care providers are enrolled in the project on an annual basis. 21 programs were accredited in SFY 2006.

Opportunities for Child Care Provider Training: Available training includes specialized topics such as infant/toddler care and inclusion of children with special needs as well as more general coursework. Some classes are available for college credit. In SFY 2006, over 24,708 individuals participated in training courses. The number of participants benefiting from trainings increased from 22,581 in SFY 2005 due to an increased level of trainings being offered by the agencies that are contracted to provide the service as well as increased marketing efforts relating to the availability of trainings. In addition to the trainings, contracted agencies provided additional specific Technical Assistance to 869 child care providers who requested targeted assistance to address specific needs of their programs.

Professional Development Registry: The Statewide Child Care and Early Education Development System (S*CCEEDS) documents and tracks the education and work experience of child care practitioners via a career ladder system. As of June 30, 2006, 4,734 practitioners were registered - this is an increase of 3% over June 30, 2005; 638 trainers were registered - an increase of 2% from June 30, 2005; and, 1,960 trainings were registered - an increase of 48% from the previous year.

Quality Set Aside Activities as a Integral Component of the State School Readiness Action Plan

In January 2004, Governor Janet Napolitano unveiled the Arizona School Readiness Action Plan as the starting point for building an early childhood education system that supports the learning and development of Arizona's youngest children. The Vision of the Plan is:

ALL CHILDREN IN ARIZONA START FIRST GRADE SAFE, HEALTHY AND READY TO SUCCEED.

The four **Outcomes** or **Pillars** upon which the Vision is based are:

Ready Families	Ready Programs & Schools	Ready Teachers	Ready Communities
<i>Parents and families are children's first teachers.</i>	<i>Quality early learning experiences can lead not only to success in elementary school, but also lead to a more productive, happy and healthy life.</i>	<i>Early education teachers can have a profound impact on a child's potential for success.</i>	<i>Ultimate success is contingent on full engagement by parents, businesses, programs, schools and communities at every level.</i>
<u>Support</u> culturally sensitive, community-based efforts to educate and inform families in critical areas of literacy, brain development, health and wellness and the importance of early learning.	<u>Provide</u> children with access to high-quality early learning settings so that all children have an equal opportunity to succeed.	<u>Support</u> training and education for early childhood teachers, and build strategies to increase the retention and compensation of early childhood education teachers.	<u>Build</u> public/private partnerships to create and expand capacity at the local level.

The contracts listed in the following pages are activities that support the Outcomes of the School Readiness Action Plan. The services delivered through these contracts not only improve the availability, quality and affordability of child care in Arizona – they are also important components of making the School Readiness Vision a reality.

Accompanying each contract area is a reference to the Plan's Pillar(s) it most closely supports.

CURRENT CONTRACTS

7/1/06– 6/30/07

Child Care for Children Residing in Residential Homeless Shelters

***Supports the School Readiness Action Plan Pillars of:
Ready Families; Ready Programs & Schools; Ready Communities***

To ensure access for special populations, DES contracts with child care programs located at residential homeless and domestic violence shelter sites. Currently, there are 6 contracts with homeless/domestic violence shelters in Maricopa and Pima County, which have on-site licensed child care with the capacity to serve approximately 348 children. These contracts assist with operational costs of child care. It is estimated that \$660,000 will be expended during fiscal year 2007 for this service.

Central Arizona Shelter Services

Contact: Mark Holleran (602) 256-6945.

Child care program licensed to serve 38 children birth to 5 years of age in Phoenix.

PREHAB of AZ

Contact: Catherine Stover-Ryan (480) 969-4024.

Child care program licensed to serve 38 children birth to 12 years of age in Mesa.

Salvation Army

Contact: Sandi Gabel (602) 267-4207

Child care program licensed to serve 39 children 6 weeks to 12 years of age in Phoenix

Sojourner Center

Contact: Connie Phillips (602) 244-0997.

Child care program licensed to serve 68 children 1 to 12 years of age in Phoenix.

Tucson Center for Women and Children

Contact: Sherri A. Barnes (520) 795-8001.

Child care program licensed to serve 84 children 2 months to 12 years of age in Tucson.

United Methodist Outreach Ministries (UMOM)

Contact: Gary Zeck (602) 275-7852

Child care program licensed to serve 81 children birth to 12 years of age in Phoenix.

Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)

***Supports the School Readiness Action Plan Pillars of:
Ready Families; Ready Teachers; Ready Communities***

The community based CCR&R contracts provide no cost, no fee services to families throughout Arizona who need assistance locating child care. A collaborative consumer education media campaign is funded to promote CCR&R service, encouraging child care providers to list with the service and educate the public about the importance of high quality child care. The CCR&R statewide toll free phone number is 1-800-308-9000; and the web site is www.azchildcare.org. It is estimated that \$2.35 million will be expended during fiscal year 2007 for these services. Training is also available at no charge to assist child care providers in their professional growth and development (see page 10).

Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)

Contact: Susan Wilkins (480) 829-0500

A Coalition of **Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)** and the **Arizona Child Care Association (ACCA)** serves families in Apache, Coconino, Gila, Maricopa, Navajo, Pinal and Yavapai Counties.

Child & Family Resources (C&FR)

Contact: Dr. Eric Schindler (520) 881-8940.

Child & Family Resources serves families in Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz, Mohave, Pima, Santa Cruz and Yuma Counties.

Program Development

***Supports the School Readiness Action Plan Pillars of:
Ready Programs & Schools; Ready Teachers; Ready Communities***

The following contracts are designed to improve, expand or integrate existing services. Contracts have been awarded on a statewide basis to develop a statewide professional development system and to facilitate quality improvement and/or national accreditation. An estimated \$2.08 million will be expended during fiscal year 2007 for these services.

Statewide Professional Development System

Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)

Contact: Susan Wilkins (480) 829-0500

Statewide Child Care and Early Education Development System: S*CCEEDS

The Association for Supportive Child Care collaborated with Child and Family Resources, Inc. to establish the Statewide Early Care and Education Development System (S*CCEEDS). Research indicates that offering training and educational opportunities that promote professional growth and development is fundamental in encouraging practitioners to improve their skills and qualifications. S*CCEEDS operates a training registry which includes a voluntary registration system for child care and early education practitioners. Standards for S*CCEEDS trainers were established by a broad-based group of community stakeholders who participated in the Professional Development Committee of the State's Head Start Advisory Council. S*CCEEDS registered trainers help prepare practitioners to meet the needs of the children and families they serve.

Program Improvement Project

Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)

Contact: Susan Wilkins (480) 829-0500

Arizona Self Study Project (ASSP)

The Association for Supportive Child Care provides technical assistance to 150 center and home based child care providers statewide that demonstrate a commitment to improving the quality of child care provided to children. This commitment is demonstrated by completing a self assessment tool developed by a national accreditation body. This leads to developing goals and implementing of a program improvement plan which may include pursuing national accreditation. This project provides training, mentoring, resources, support and guidance to each site based on their program improvement plan? In addition, ASSP staff administers a mini-grant fund for participants enrolled in ASSP. Mini-grants are available to providers who have actively participated in ASSP and have demonstrated positive efforts towards the implementation of quality improvement plans. These funds may be used to defray the cost of: equipment and supplies to improve the quality of care; equipment and supplies to achieve accreditation; staff professional development; accreditation fees; and minor remodeling within the Child Care and Development Fund limitations.

Training

***Supports the School Readiness Action Plan Pillars of:
Ready Programs & Schools; Ready Teachers;***

Community based training opportunities are offered statewide to all types of child care providers. Services ranges from on-site technical assistance to college credit courses in early childhood education. Services are available in all 15 counties, to all provider types. Contracts include: assistance with college coursework that leads to a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential; statewide infant/toddler training; a 60 hour introductory training to individuals interested in entering the child care profession; technical assistance and training to programs serving children with special needs and a variety of other related training delivered by community based contractors. It is estimated that \$2.3 million will be expended during fiscal year 2007 for these services.

Child Care Professional Training

A 60 hour introductory training that is designed to provide employment preparation to individuals interested in working as child care professionals. The training prepares individuals to enter the field of Early Care and Education by providing them with the knowledge and skills to become employed as quickly as possible. Entities contracted to deliver this service are:

- **Association for Supportive Child Care** - Maricopa, Gila and Pinal Counties
Contact: Susan Wilkins (480) 829-0500
- **Pima Community College** - Pima County
Contact: Eric Moorefield (520) 206-5176
- **Yavapai College** - Apache, Coconino, Graham, Greenlee, Mohave, Navajo, Santa Cruz, Yavapai, and Yuma Counties
Contact: Vickey Lamotte (928) 776-2306

Blake Foundation Children and Family Services

Contact: Annabel Ratley (520) 795-4977 ext. 216

Project “Me Too!” offers training that is available in all counties to early education practitioners. Project “Me Too!” training focuses on inclusion of children with disabilities in three distinct child care settings: home based; center based; and before and after school based. Technical assistance is available to child care programs that require assistance implementing the strategies and techniques presented in the workshop. An Administrator’s Seminar will also be held in Pima County. The seminar allows directors/administrators an opportunity to network; develop a support system; and discuss issues relevant to inclusion.

Central Arizona College

Contact: Shirley Burton (520) 494-5077

The **Professional Career Pathway Project** offers family child care and center-based child care practitioners the opportunity to receive assistance with the cost of the tuition/fees and books for college coursework that will prepare them to apply for the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential or receive an Early Childhood Certificate of completion or an Associates of Applied Sciences degree. DES and DHS certified home providers are able to receive support to pursue the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) Accreditation. Central Arizona College collaborates with community colleges statewide to offer this financial assistance and academic advising to all students in the field.

Training (continued)

Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Provider Training

Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC) and Child and Family Resources (C&FR)

Contact: Susan Wilkins (480) 829-0500 and/or Dr. Eric Schindler (520) 881-8940

CCR&R Provider Training offers a broad cross section of training topics and instruction appropriate for all types of child care practitioners who work with children birth to twelve years old. Child care providers listed with CCR&R are mailed training, workshop and registration information on a quarterly basis. Many interactive workshops are presented that assist providers with specific activities geared toward early childhood education. Training is available in all counties.

Child & Family Resources, Inc. (C&FR)

Contact: Dr. Eric Schindler (520) 881-8940

In collaboration with Association for Supportive Child Care, C&FR provides the **Arizona Infant/Toddler Learning Institute** training using *The Program for Infant/Toddler Caregivers (WestEd)*. This is a nationally recognized comprehensive training curriculum offered to center and family based child care providers throughout Arizona. The training consists of a combination of workshops and individual on-site technical assistance. Certificates and incentives are awarded upon completion of the program. Participants may also be eligible for reimbursement of certain expenses necessary for participation in the training. Training is available in all counties.

Child & Family Resources, Inc. (C&FR)

Contact: Dr. Eric Schindler (520) 881-8940

The **Provider Education Program (PEP)** offers registered workshops to home and center based practitioners. PEP offers specific training tracks that focus on infant/toddler, preschool, and school age children. Technical assistance is available to assist early education practitioners with the implementation of strategies and techniques related to training. Training covers generalized areas of child care and early education. The service delivery areas are Pima, Yuma, Santa Cruz, Cochise, Graham and Greenlee Counties.

CN Resource

Contact: Richard Crandall (480) 835-7072

CN Resource utilizes *The Creative Curriculum* (Teaching Strategies, Inc), a nationally recognized training curriculum, as a foundation for its early childhood educational training for infant/toddler caregivers. The training promotes professional development at all levels through practitioner's utilization of written journals of all pertinent training, activities, skills, objectives and goals related to child care education. This self-assessment technique aids practitioners in planning and tracking their own professional education. Incentives are available to practitioners who attend, participate and incorporate the training into their daily activities. Training is available in all counties.

Training (continued)

Family Service Agency

Contact: Sorrel Bowman-Rogers (602) 264-9891.

Family Service Agency (FSA) provides training on a variety of child care and early education topics for center and home based child care practitioners. FSA provides training in the following service delivery areas: Apache, Coconino, Gila, Maricopa, Mohave, Navajo, Pinal and Yavapai Counties.

Arizona Child Care Association (ACCA)

Contact: Bruce Liggett (602) 252-3845

The Arizona Child Care Association collaborates with "Consultants Unlimited" to provide training opportunities to early education practitioners. A wide variety of trainings are held in the following service delivery areas: Apache, Coconino, Gila, Mohave, Navajo, Pima, and Yavapai Counties.

Southwest Human Development (SWHD)

Contact: Ginger Ward (602) 266-5976

Southwest Human Development (SWHD) offers numerous training opportunities in areas related to quality child care including: literacy math and science; discipline; teaching strategies; administration, management and leadership; and family child care. Technical assistance is available to child care practitioners that attend training and request onsite technical assistance to implement concepts learned in a specific training. SWHD service delivery area is Maricopa County.

University of Arizona Cooperative Extension

Contact: Darcy Dixon (520) 836-5221

In collaboration with New Directions, Inc., University of Arizona Cooperative Extension offers Mind Matters Training, which is based on current research and focus on children birth to age five (5). Child care practitioners who attend the Mind Matters Institute will participate in twenty-one (21) hours of training. Topic areas include: How a Child's Brain Develops; ABC's of Brain Development; Security; Touch; Eyes; Play; and Sound. University of Arizona Cooperative Extension service delivery areas include: Cochise, Gila, Graham, Maricopa, Mohave, and Pinal Counties.

Other Quality Set Aside Expenditures

***Supports the School Readiness Action Plan Pillars of:
Ready Families; Ready Programs & Schools; Ready Teachers; Ready Communities***

The following contracts and interagency service agreements are designed to improve parental choice, quality, availability, and/or affordability of child care statewide for young children and their families. It is estimated that \$ 2.34 million will be expended during fiscal year 2007 for the following programs: Enhanced Rate for Accredited Programs, School Age Project and the School Readiness Board.

Enhanced Rate for Accredited Programs

Instituted in August 1999 the Enhanced Rate Program for Accredited Programs allows DES eligible parents to enroll their children in programs providing higher quality care. DES pays 10% over the DES contracted rate for care provided in these settings. In SFY 2002 the Legislature shifted enhanced reimbursement for accreditation from TANF to CCDF quality funds. Currently 4.5% (138) of center and home providers who contract with DES are accredited and eligible for the enhanced rate. Approximately 2,856 children per month benefit from the enhanced rate program.

Center Based Child Care and Group Family Child Care Homes needing more information on enhanced rates should contact: Jerry Lay, DES Child Care Administration Contracts Specialist at (602) 542-0238 or toll free 1 (877) 822-2322, or email at jlay@azdes.gov.

Certified Family Child Care Homes needing more information on enhanced rates should contact their local Certification office. If you need to locate the phone number for your local CCA office, contact DES Child Care Administration Central Office at (602) 542-4248 or toll free 1(877) 822-2322 or visit <http://www.azdes.gov/childcare/office.asp>

School Age Project

Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families (GOCYF)

Contact: Karen Ortiz, (602) 542-6003

An Interagency Service Agreement (ISA) with the GOYCF provides funding to improve the availability and quality of Out-of-School Time and school aged child care programs. Additionally, the GOCYF collaborates with community groups that serve as the voice and advocate for children considered the "tweeners" who fall between the age of school readiness and high school.

The "Phone Friend" program offers a before and after school, bilingual, "warm line" phone service for children who are home alone. Trained counselors (staff and supervised volunteers) assist children with homework, sibling conflicts, problem solving and non-emergency situations. The program also provides safety training to children through outreach to community based settings, often schools. Phone Friend can be reached at (602) 253-9099; Toll free (800) 308-2000; or TTY (480) 736-2627. The Web site for Phone Friend is www.phonefriendaz.org.

Other Quality Set Aside Expenditures (continued)

School Readiness Board

Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families (School Readiness Board)

Contact: Karen Ortiz, (602) 542-6003

An Interagency Service Agreement (ISA) with the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families provides funding to support the Arizona State School Readiness Board. The Board will: Advise and make recommendations to the Governor, Superintendent of Public Instruction and Legislature on the most effective policy direction and methods to improve the coordination, quality and delivery of early care and education services - including preschool child care and family support services; Recommend through a multi-year plan, how current functions in state government relate to early care and education can most effectively be coordinated and integrated to improve service delivery and quality of care, avoid duplication and fragmentation and enhance public and private investment; Identify and recommend methods for measuring quality, availability and effectiveness of early care and education programs; Identify and measure indicators of school readiness, and track federal, state and local monies that are allocated for early care and education and recommend mechanisms for enhancement, integration and coordination. The GOCYF, Arizona School Readiness Board also participates in national dialogues related to youth service providers for the purpose of sharing information on best practices and effective program development.

Licensing & Monitoring Support

Department of Health Service: Office of Child Care Licensure

Contact: Lourdes Ochoa (602) 364-2536

An Interagency Service Agreement (ISA) with DHS, Office of Child Care Licensure provides funding for activities associated with the licensing and monitoring of child care centers and group homes. This ISA is funded with CCDF Quality Set-Aside funds, but is not included in the CCDF amount appropriated to DES. The legislature appropriates CCDF funding directly to DHS for this purpose.

Child Care for Children with Special Needs

***Supports the School Readiness Action Plan Pillar of:
Ready Programs & Schools***

The following contracts provide enhanced services to children with special needs through 140 full time child care openings. Expenditures are approximately \$ 476,600 for one year of service. (Services provided under these contracts are paid with Child Care Administration client service dollars, not Quality Set-Aside funds).

Blake Foundation Children and Family Services

Contact: Annabel Ratley (520) 795-4977 ext. 216

Thirty child care spaces for children with disabilities and/or special health care needs age one to five years old in South Tucson and Safford.

Crisis Nursery

Contact: Marsha Porter (602) 273-7363

Ten child care spaces for children with disabilities and/or special health care needs age six weeks to five years old in Phoenix.

Ehmke's Childhaven

Contact: Eve Hoskins (928) 537-2365

Twenty child care spaces for children with disabilities and/or special health care needs age two to twelve years old in Show Low.

Grace Chapel Early Care and Education Center

Contact: Jacqueline Ford (520) 886-4046

Forty child care spaces for children with disabilities and/or special health care needs age six weeks to twelve years old in Tucson and Pima County.

Sunrise Preschools

Contact: Dana Vela (480) 706-2500

Twenty five child care spaces for children with disabilities and/or special health care needs age one to twelve years old in Cave Creek, Chandler, Gilbert, Glendale, Goodyear, Mesa, Peoria, Phoenix, Scottsdale and Tempe.

United Cerebral Palsy Association of Central Arizona

Contact: K. Vilay (602) 943-5472

Five child care spaces for children with disabilities and/or special health care needs age six weeks to five years old in Maricopa County.

Upward Foundation

Contact: Sharon Graham (602) 279-5801

Ten child care spaces for children with disabilities and/or special health care needs age eighteen months to five years old in Maricopa County.

Home Recruitment

Supporting the School Readiness Action Plan Pillars of: Ready Programs & Schools; Ready Teachers

Contracts are in place in all 15 Arizona counties to assist interested individuals in becoming DES certified family child care providers and to increase provider options for DES eligible families. These contracts provide recruitment, evaluation, training, technical assistance and one time assistance with costs associated in meeting certification requirements (e.g. fingerprinting, fire extinguishers, smoke alarms, immunizations, etc.). It is estimated that \$2.4 million will be expended during fiscal year 2007 for these services.

Association for Supportive Child Care (ASSC)

Contact: Susan Wilkins (480) 829-0500

- Mohave and La Paz Counties: 40 providers will complete the DES certification process.
- Apache, Coconino and Navajo Counties: 40 providers will complete the DES certification process.
- Maricopa County: 110 providers will complete the DES certification process.

Buena Vista Children's Services

Contact: Leslie Owens (928) 639-0366

- Yavapai County: 15 providers will complete the DES certification process.

Child & Family Resources (C&FR)

Contact: Dr. Eric Schindler (520) 881-8940

- Yuma County: 50 providers will complete the DES certification process.

In addition to assisting individual providers in becoming certified by DES, in certain counties, CF&R also provides monitoring and case management to DES certified family child care providers.

- Pima County: 100 providers will complete the DES certification process and approximately 450 will be monitored.
- Santa Cruz County: 10 providers will complete the DES certification process and approximately 60 will be monitored.

And, as listed below, C&FR will provide the following services:

- Graham and Greenlee Counties: Approximately 60 providers will receive support services.
- Cochise County: Approximately 100 providers will receive support services.

U of A Cooperative Extension

Contact: Darcy Dixon (520) 836-5221

- Gila and Pinal Counties: 56 providers will complete the DES certification process.

Coordination

Supporting the School Readiness Action Plan Pillar of: Ready Communities

The following contracts support collaborative relationships and the further development of community services to improve available child care services. Contracts in this category include: technical assistance with building the quality & supply of tribal child care; and consultant services to facilitate activities of the Child Care Administration and the Arizona School Readiness Board. It is estimated that \$100,000 will be expended during fiscal year 2007 for these services.

B.J. Tatro, Consulting

Contact: B. J. Tatro (602) 596-3560.

Supports planning, evaluation, and group decision making for the enhancement of early childhood systems and integration of early childhood issues into the work of all six program divisions within DES. Coordinates and facilitates committees of the School Readiness Board, including the Quality Rating Expansion Team, which is exploring quality rating and the enhancement of quality in child care programs statewide, and the Training Subcommittee of the Professional Development and Articulation group, which is focused on the development of a web-based early childhood professional development resource center, the enhancement of community-based educator qualifications, and strengthening participant learning assessment. Coordinates and facilitates the DES Early Childhood Task Force, which is dedicated to increasing understanding of early childhood issues throughout DES and enhancing the ability of DES to support the success of young children and their families.

Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA)

Contact: John Lewis (602) 248-0071

ITCA identifies and examines child care options in various communities located on Tribal lands in order to enhance the quality of on-reservation child care through strategies that address the unique needs of Native American families and children. Activities include; 1) Establishment and facilitation of a tribal early Education Working Group that meets quarterly to discuss tribal child care issues and share program information; 2) Convening an "Early Childhood Circles of Sharing and Caring" training conference specifically targeted toward addressing the unique needs of child care programs operating on Indian lands; and 3) Providing specific technical assistance based upon requests received from tribal child care programs.